

Human Services Funding Committee / Community Development Committee (CDC)

Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Attending: *Members:* Paulette Brooks, Claude Tellier, Mary Jane Laus, Jana McClure and Lew Rudolph. *Town Staff:* Roy Rosenblatt. *Select Board Liaison:* Gerry Weiss
Guest: Rose Evans (CHD) and Carol Booth (citizen)

CDBG funding:

Unofficially, Amherst was continued as a mini-entitlement community. Over the course of the next few meetings, the committee will determine the process for reviewing and recommending social service agencies for funding. The committee agreed that the preferred process for agencies to request funding is to submit an RFP for committee review.

Areas in high need of support continue to be emergency assistance services, shelter services and childcare services.

Center for Human Development Proposal:

Rose Evans, Program Director for CHD, reviewed the proposal put to the committee by herself and Carol Booth the property owner. Ms. Evans informed the committee that the property located on University Drive has not been reviewed for zoning requirements. CHD is proposing to locate several of their programs to the University Drive property. Included in the services is sheltering space for individuals in need of temporary shelter. The number of cots supported by the space could possibly range from four to seven. The committee stressed the need for shelter services to be a key factor of the proposal.

Additionally, Ms. Evans stressed that by placing all of CHD's services under one roof the Amherst community would benefit by only having to go to one location for multiple services. Ms. Booth stated that she would enter into a 15 year lease agreement at below market value. Ms. Evans also stated that CHD will continue to pursue collaborating with Ms. Booth if they do not receive CDBG funding. The committee requested Ms. Evans to provide a written statement outlining how the proposal would benefit the Amherst community. Ms. Evans agreed and stated that she would send the document to Mr. Rosenblatt prior to the next CDC meeting on 11/3/09. Ms. Evans and Ms. Booth are invited to attend this meeting.

Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Community Development Committee is scheduled for 11/3/09. The public hearing is scheduled for 11/16/09. Times and locations of each meeting will be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jana McClure